

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NOZAKI, Takashi, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3629

Serial No.: 10/660,744

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**Filed: **September 12, 2003**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 5997

For: **SETTLEMENT PROCESSING APPARATUS, SYSTEM, METHOD, AND  
PROGRAM THEREOF, AND RECORDING MEDIUM FOR RECORDING  
THE PROGRAM**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 27, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
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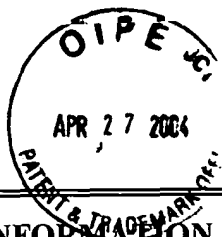
MRQ/lrj  
Atty. Docket No. **031117**  
Suite 1000  
1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930



**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, References (5) and European Search Report dated 4/06/04



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. 031117	Serial No. 10/660,744
	Applicant(s): NOZAKI, Takashi, et al.	
	Filing Date: September 12, 2003	Group Art Unit: 3629

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
/L.M./	AA	2002-0023215	Wang et al.	02/21/02	713	171
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
/L.M./ ✓ AF WO 98/34203	08/06/98	PCT	Yes
/L.M./ ✓ AG WO 97/45814	12/04/97	PCT	Yes
/L.M./ ✓ AH EP 1 107 198	06/13/01	European	Yes
/L.M./ ✓ AI EP 0 910 028	04/21/99	European	Yes
_____ AJ			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

/L.M./	AK	European Search Report dated April 6, 2004.
_____	AL	
Examiner	/Leland Marcus/	Date Considered 12/06/2008